(b) if so, whether there were reports of more than 3 aircrafts;

(c) whether these aircrafts are used for spying on ground army locations; and

(d) if so, how many such Pakistani aircrafts were destroyed by the Indian army?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No/Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of answer to part (a).

Jaguar crashes

† 1504. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the incidents of Jaguar crashes have increased in the recent past;

(b) if so, whether Government have inquired into the reasons of these air crashes;

(c) if so, the outcomes thereof; and

(d) the concrete steps proposed to be taken by Government to modernise the Jaguar?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) Necessary steps have been taken to upgrade the Jaguar aircraft.

Violation of norms in army contracts

1505. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi High Court has recently pulled up Government for violation of norms in army contract;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the action proposed to be taken to comply with the directives of the High Court in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Army Headquarters (Directorate General of Supplies and Transport) invited tenders for procurement of 50 kiloliters of Temephos 50%, an insecticide, against the requirement for the year 2002-2003 by a Board of Officers. The price quotation received from three suppliers against the tender enquiry are as given below:—

(a)	M/s Gharda Chemicals Ltd, Mumbai	Rs. 481.40 per litre
(b)	M/s Agri More Ltd, Atul, Gujarat	Rs. 503.00 per litre (offered 5% free goods)
(c)	M/s Ficom Organics Ltd., Mumbai	Rs. 610.52 per litre

2. The tenders were processed in the Directorate of Supplies and Transport who accepted the offer of discount offered by M/s Agri More Ltd. and recommended negotiation with M/s Agri More Ltd, Atul, Gujarat being L-1. A duly constituted Price Negotation Committee negotiated the offer made by M/s Agri More Ltd and accepted the net price of Rs. 479.05 per liter.

3. Aggrieved by the above decision of the Price Negotiation Committee, M/s. Ghadra Chemicals Ltd., Mumbai filed a Writ petition No. 572 of 2002 in the High Court of Delhi who in its order dated 6.6.2002 did not accept the free offer by M/s. Agri More Ltd. as a discount offer. The Court, however, decided not to award the contract in favour of the petitioner. At the same time the Court has directed that the supplies already made by M/s. Agri More Ltd. will not be rejected and that the firm shall not be allowed to supply any further material under the present supply order. The Court has also directed to call for a limited tender for the balance quantity of the material.

4. In compliance of the directions of the High Court, instructions have been issued to the Directorate General of Quality Assurance, Ministry of Defence, not to accept and further quantity for inspection from M/s. Agri More Ltd. Further as directed by the Court, for tho balance quantity, limited tender will be resorted to.